

**DEVICE AND METHOD FOR SELECTIVELY
MODIFYING A BACKPLANE**

ABSTRACT

[0027] Provided is a module for attachment to an existing backplane in a telecommunications system. In one example, the module provides high speed interconnect paths for transporting large quantities of data flowing through the system, while enabling the existing backplane to carry lower bandwidth power and control functions. The module may be easily added to a unit in the field without disturbing the operation of the system. In another example, the module may be used to provide the existing backplane with additional functionality, alternate connection types, or other modifications.